(b) whether the same is still under the consideration of Ministry of communcations;

(c) if so, latest status of the suggested transfer of control; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. There was a proposal from the Department of Heavy Industry in their Cabinet note to transfer the control of Hindustan Cables Ltd. to Ministry of Communcations.

(b) The proposal had not been agreed by Ministry of Communications. The proposal had also not been approved by the Cabinet in its meeting on 27/1/1999. However, as per Cabinet decision, the policy of reservation to HCL is to be reviewed after two years ending 2000-2001.

(c) Regarding transfer of control, the proposal, if any from Department of Heavy Industry (DHI), will be considered by Ministry of Communications.

(d) Not applicable in view of Para (c) above.

Recognition of Jankinath Bhavan as National Monument

3262. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY : Will the Minister of CULTUTRE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that the Jankinath Bhavan (Cuttack) where Netaji Subhaschandra Bose was born in 1897 is in need of repairs;

(b) whether Government consider it necessary to recognise the building as a National Monument, in view of the eminence of Netaji as a National Leader; and

(c) if so, what measures Government contemplate to expedite the process of its recognition as a National Monument?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTUTRE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Public Works Department (R & B) Government of Orissa looks after the maintenance and carries out repairs as and when required.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The building has already declared as a memorial by the Government of Orissa. The National Committee for celebration of the

birth centenary of Netaji has already decided to set up a memorial museum in the Netaji's ancestral house at Cuttack.

Withdrawal of world heritage classification to Hampi

3263. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UNESCO authorities are threating to withdraw World Heritage Classification to Hampi in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the reasons given by the UNESCO; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take for averting the situation of withdrawal of World Heritage Classification?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The World Heritage site of Hampi has been declared an endangered site by the UNESCO in view of the certain construction activities undertaken at the site by the State Government.

(c) The Government of Karnataka, on the advice of the Government of India has set up a high level Task Force to take long-term corrective measures for the preservation and maintenance of Hampi monuments.

New National Cultural Policy

3264. SHRI P. SOUNDARARANJAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that formulation of new 'National Cultural Policy' is underway;

(b) if so, whether the States and the representatives of various cultural identities have been consulted; and

(c) whether Government have proposal to send it to a Parliamentary Committee before declaration?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) Though attempts to formulate a comprehensive National Cultural Policy were made in the past no finality could be arrived at. The exercise included consultations with the States Government, UTs, Members